

REMARKS

The drawings were objected to based on a typographical error in Fig. 8A. Applicants have submitted a proposed amendment to Fig. 8A to overcome the objection. In addition, proposed amendments to Figs. 10C and 10D have been submitted to correct additional typographical errors identified by Applicants.

The specification was objected to based on the typographical errors identified in the Office Action. Applicants have further identified additional typographical errors in the specification. Applicants have hereby submitted amendments to the specification to correct such errors. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-4 and 6-10 were objected to for the informalities identified in the Office Action. Applicants have amended these claims, where appropriate, to correct these informalities.

Applicants have canceled claims 6 and 7 to overcome the objection thereto.

Applicants have added new claims 17-43. In view of the prior art of record, Applicants believe each of these claims to include patentable subject matter in at least the combination of elements recited in each of the independent claims. For example, the prior art of record discloses microprocessor control of switches to effectuate the charge and discharge periods of the sensing capacitor/electrode. See, *e.g.*, Mull, Fig. 2; Philipp, Figs. 5 and 7. No such microprocessor control is required in claims 17-43. By way of further example, the prior art of record does not disclose use of an impedance buffer between the sensing capacitor/electrode and the conditioning and sensing circuitry.

The claims of the present application as submitted herein are believed by  
Applicants to be in a form suitable for allowance and such is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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